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and second pairs of apertures.

Cancel claims ~~12~~ and ~~13~~.

Cancel claims ~~14-19~~ and ~~21-24~~ without
prejudice to the filing of a divisional application on
these method claims.

REMARKS

The courtesy afforded attorney for applicant during the interview of June 23, 1998 and subsequent phone conferences was greatly appreciated. During this interview the references and particularly Davison et al., Peze et al., and Rosenblad were discussed as well as the pending claims. Models showing the device of the present invention were demonstrated. During the interview it was acknowledged there was no art cited that had the combination of an inner core of first and second outer core plates, and a stack of inner core plates in combination with first and second core retaining plates that extended beyond the ends of the inner core with there being a parallel relationship of these plates. This structure for the inner core is pretested for leaks before the core retaining plates are added.

At the conclusion of the interview it was indicated that the claims drawn to the structure that referred to parallel relationship of the outer core plates, inner core plates and retainer plates distinguished over the art would be allowable. Claim 1 has been amended for clarity to specify the parallel relationship of these plates and to make it clear that the outer core plates 23 and 24 are constructed of a thickness or material having a greater ability to resist pressure than the inner core plates which is

not shown in the art cited. Claims 12 and 13 are directed to the form of Figure 10 that does not have the outer retaining plates protruding beyond the core.

The method claims 14-19 and 21-24 will be pursued in a divisional application and have been canceled without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application.

Since the remaining claims 2-11 and 20 depend from claim 1 these claims are believed further definitions of an allowable generic claims and also believed allowable.

Reconsideration, withdrawal of the final rejection and allowance of claims 1-11 and 20 is respectfully requested in view of the interview, amendment of claim 1 and cancellation of the other pending claims, and the foregoing remarks.

Should any issues remain which would preclude prompt allowance of this application, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,



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